

## **Conservation**

### **Mission:**

This activity provides for the support to the Colonial Soil and Water Conservation District (Colonial SWCD). The Colonial SWCD is a political subdivision of the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation/Division of Soil and Water Conservation (DCR/DSWC). The Colonial SWCD's responsibility is to assist and administer conservation policies and practices to protect and enhance our natural resources within our District, as mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### **Goals:**

- To support each locality with Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act local ordinances.
- Provide technical expertise to farmers and landowners in developing required Soil and Water Quality Conservation Plans.

### **Implementation Strategies for FY2004:**

- The implementation of the new State Agricultural Tax Credit Program, which allows farmers to qualify for a 25% tax credit for the cost of implementing conservation practices. This program will provide funding for practices ranging from soil testing to major engineering practices.
- The Colonial SWCD has been a leader in initiating the Tributary Strategy process in both James and York Watersheds.
- The Colonial SWCD also delivers an extensive educational outreach program, ranging from technical education for the agricultural community to local grade school children's programs. It supports local citizen groups promoting resource conservation initiatives, such as, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay/Chickahominy Watershed Project, Boy Scouts, and the Powhatan Creek Watershed Project.

### **Budget Issues:**

- In FY2002, the annual support to the Colonial SWCD was increased by 10% from \$7,350 to \$8,085.
- In FY2003, the annual support to the Colonial SWCD remained the same as last year at \$8,085.
- For FY2004, the annual support to the Colonial SWCD remains the same as last year at \$8,085.

General Fund Expenditures	FY2000 Actual Expenditures	FY2001 Actual Expenditures	FY2002 Actual Expenditures	FY2003 Original Budget	FY2003 Expected Appropriations	FY2004 Adopted Budget
<b>50822 Conservation</b>						
Contributions	<u>7,000</u>	<u>7,350</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>8,085</u>
Activity Total	<u>7,000</u>	<u>7,350</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>8,085</u>	<u>8,085</u>
Percentage Change	0.00%	5.00%	10.00%	0.00%	N/A	0.00%

#### FTE's

Management	-	-	-	-	-	-
Professional/Technical	-	-	-	-	-	-
Admin/Clerical	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trades & Crafts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

